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DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA MAY CHANGE GOVERNMENT

Proposed to Have a Governor Appointed by the
President Present Form Very Unpopular.
The New Idea Has Many Supporters.

SIMPLE LIFE UNBALANCED HER MIND

Police Investigating the Kauai Poisoning Case. Hawaiian
Coffee in New Zealand. The Greatest Diocese in
America. Bold Hold Up of the Spokane Flyer.

Washington, D. C., January 28.—
"The President's Little Kingdom,"
as the District of Columbia, in
which this city is located, was once
aptly called, has been shaken re-
cently by a proposition of a serious
nature to change its form of govern-
ment. No political division of the
United States has been so various-
ly governed during the last hun-
dred years. Although its popula-
tion is about 300,000—considerably
larger than any one of several
States, notably Delaware, Wyom-
ing, Nevada and Idaho—there are
but few people in the country at
large who can tell how local author-
ity is exercised within its limits.
It used to have a territorial or-
ganization, with a governor and a
legislature of two branches. At
one time, also, it had a municipal
form of government, with a mayor,
as the city of Washington com-
prises about all there is to the
District. But things kept going
from bad to worse and the negroes
became such an undesirable ele-
ment in the voting population that
in the early 70's the form of gov-
ernment was again changed and
for thirty-five years the District
has been governed by a board of
three commissioners, one a Republi-
can, one a Democrat, and one an
army officer, each of the three be-
ing paid an annual salary of \$5,000.
The President appoints them, with
the consent of the Senate. Virtual-
ly the President is the supreme
authority. If he wishes to do so,
he can absolutely control the ad-
ministration of the District of
Columbia more autocratically by
far than would be permitted to
the governor of any State.

The local government has proven
very satisfactory in the main, al-
though the farthest removed from
being a representative government.
But with all its advantage it is
probably the finest representation
of red tape, such as would put the
red tape of the British department
in the shade, that has ever been
developed in this country. The
three commissioners divide the
supervision of local governmental
activities. One has the police;
another the health department,
and so on. While each has su-
preme authority, subject to the
President, in his own field, no one
stands forth as the head of the
District government. If a Senator
or a member of the House wants
to inquire about a certain topic, he
must first ascertain which commis-
sioner has jurisdiction. The voice
of the District Commissioners is
expressed only at board meetings,
and this voice daily condescends
to very minute details. For in-
stance, if it is proposed to send a
bill or some other document to a
certain person, strictly speaking,
the action must first be approved
by all three commissioners.
So it has been proposed that the
city of Washington, or rather the

District of Columbia, shall have a
governor; just like the state and
territories, who, alone, shall be the
responsible head. The idea of
having him elected by popular
vote would not be tolerated for a
moment by the representative peo-
ple here. He will be appointed by
the President just as the governors
of territories are and confirmed by
the Senate. The idea has many
advocates and has been broached
so vigorously in certain quarters
that there is good show of its be-
ing adopted by the next Congress.
The time is too brief to permit of
such action this winter. For,
while the President has great autho-
rity in his little kingdom, all the
laws for it are made by Congress
and approved by him, just as the
Federal laws are made for all the
nation.

The President of the Board of
Commissioners comes nearer now
to what the governor is in other
states than any other officer. This
official is always of the same poli-
tics as the administration. But
while one commissioner is always
a Republican and one a Democrat,
theoretically, and must as a mat-
ter of fact be a bona fide resident
of the District, long residence here
has tended to eliminate partisan-
ship among the leading people.
They take no very keen interest in
either party. Thus it happens that
the commissioners are often men
belonging distinctly to neither
party, or having little more than a
nominal identity with either poli-
tical organization. On matters of
local government, however,
Washingtonians are exceedingly
alert. They fight like Kilkeny
cats and carry their fights right up
to Congress. In the matter of
having a governor, as proposed,
they are evincing a very lively in-
terest, and whenever Congress is
ready to take up the question, both
branches will be besieged by citi-
zens determined to be heard on
one or the other side.

Ferretting Out The Poisoners.

Honolulu, Feb. 7.—Advices from
Kauai are to the effect that the
whole island is stirred up over the
B. D. Baldwin case, and it is even
said that Will Baldwin, who pre-
ceded B. D. Baldwin in the manage-
ment of Makaweli, was a victim of
slow poison. At all events, for a
long time before he left Makaweli,
Will Baldwin was ill, and did not
fully recover his health until he
left Kauai. It is thought that the
plan of the poisoners was to ad-
minister minute doses, so as to
cause lingering death in such a
way that no suspicion would be
directed toward them. Hugh Mor-
rison, manager of Makaweli just
previous to Will Baldwin, was tak-
en deathly sick and kept failing in
health until at last he was obliged
to resign his situation and leave
for the Coast in search of health,

where he died a short time after
his arrival.

B. D. Baldwin, as well as some
of his family, has been unwell for
some time. In fact, a few months
ago Mr. Baldwin was critically ill
and everything goes to show that
the Baldwins have been taking poi-
sons into their systems for many
months, and it is said that these
poisons have been given them by
two Japanese employed at Maka-
weli, namely Nomi Nizo, a cook
employed by Mr. Baldwin, and
Yonemoto, a man employed in the
mill.

Sheriff Coney went to Makaweli
last week and arrested Nomi Nizo
and Yonemoto and took them to
Waimea, where their case came up
in Judge Hofgaard's court last
Wednesday. The case was post-
poned until February 11th, as a
Japanese who is an important wit-
ness in the case is now in Honolulu.

There are conflicting stories as to
the character of the poison used,
one saying that the cook at the
plantation house was seen putting
arsenic or something of that kind
into the drinking water used at the
house, while still another is to the
effect that the plantation chemist
found that Mr. Baldwin had been
taking bichloride of mercury into
his system.

Greatest of American Dioceses.

Honolulu, Feb. 6.—Bishop Henry
Restarick of the Diocese of Hono-
lulu now has the distinction of be-
ing the head of the largest diocese
of the American Episcopal Church,
if not the largest diocese in the
world. The boundaries of his ter-
ritory inclose an area half as large
as that of the entire mainland por-
tion of the United States. How-
ever, it is but fair to state that
most of the area so included con-
sists only of the blue waters of the
Pacific.

At the recent convention of the
Episcopal Church it was decided to
place every bit of the territory of
United States under the jurisdic-
tion of some one or other of the
bishops of the church. Guam and
American Samoa were the only two
portions of American territory
not yet assigned, and the
former was given to the Bishop of
the Philippines, while Samoa fell
to the lot of Bishop Restarick.

The enlarged Diocese of Hono-
lulu is interesting and entirely
unique. The islands included in its
jurisdiction may be roughly en-
closed by a right angled triangle,
with the right angle somewhere
east of Maui and northeast of Ha-
waii, and the other angles at Mid-
way island in the extreme west of
the Hawaiian group and Tutuila,
in Samoa. From Hawaii to Tutuila,
Samoa, is nearly 2,300 miles,
from the most easterly point in the
diocese to Midway, nearly 1,400
miles. This vast religious jurisdic-
tion has the distinction of being
the only American diocese lying on
both sides of the equator, and Bis-
hop Restarick is one of the few pre-
lates to rule beneath both the Pole
Star and the Southern Cross.

Unbalanced Her Mind.

San Francisco, Jan. 21.—The
simple life has been Ethel Duri-
vage's undoing. Holding that life
comes from fresh air and hot milk
and that meat is a thing to be
shunned this 20 year old daugh-
ter of J. L. Durivage of 1566 Fell
street, has broken down so com-
pletely that yesterday it was neces-
sary for the police to remove her
from her home to the Detention
Hospital.

There the Lunacy Commissioners
decided that the girl is not insane.
They found that her ailments were
caused by her unusual mode of life.

JAPANESE BLOCKADE OF VLADIVOSTOK SUCCESSFUL

Russian General Dies From Strikers Wounds.
Four State Senators Indicted. Consents
to Separation of State and Church

\$150,000 APPROPRIATED LEPROSY STUDY

King Oscar of Sweden Has Abdicated. Separate Consular
Representatives for Sweden and Norway Fails.
Refined Sugar Drops Ten Cents Per Hundred.

(Special by Wireless to THE NEWS)

Honolulu, Feb. 10.—Sugar 4.9375
Beets 15s 3d.

Sacramento, Feb. 10. Four State
Senators have been indicted for
bribery.

Soznoice, Feb. 10.—The strikers
attacked the electrical works here
and the troupes fired upon them
wounding many.

Chicago, Feb. 10.—Hoch has arriv-
ed here and a sick woman has iden-
tified him as her husband.

Tokyo, Feb. 10.—It is believed that
the blockade of Vladivostok by the
Japanese navy is effective.

The steamer Wvfield has been de-
clared a legal capture.

Paris, Feb. 10.—The Ministry has
consented to allow the Chamber of
Deputies to pass a bill providing for
the separation of the Church and
State.

Washington, D. C., Feb. 3.—The
House Committee on Interstate and
Foreign Commerce has approved the
bills providing for the establishment
of sanitariums for lepers in the main-
land of the United States, and also
appropriating \$150,000, to be used
in Hawaii for scientific study of the
disease.

Delegate Kuhlo appeared before the
committee and argued for favorable
action.

New York Feb. 9.—All refined
sugars were reduced ten cents per
hundred yesterday.

The life she has lived has been a
strange one. Her father, who is a
firm advocate of Christian Science
and vegetarianism, is a real estate
dealer. He is at the head of a
family composed of his wife and
six children. They live in com-
fortable circumstances in a big flat
in Fell street.

The family cuisine is drawn en-
tirely from vegetarian sources.
Durivage has permitted no meat in
his house. His wife, who lies in
bed suffering from rheumatism, is
under the exclusive care of a
Christian Science healer. This
healer has also attended the girl,
who, because of her violence, was
yesterday restrained of her liberty.
She was given absent treatments
for her excessive nervousness, but
her condition grew worse. Lately
she has proclaimed upon every oc-
casion her allegiance to the sim-
ple life.

Held Up A Train.

Portland, February 1.—The
"Spokane flyer" on the Oregon
Railway and Navigation Com-
pany's line running out of Port-
land was held up at 6:15 to-night
by four masked men within the
city limits and the rear car, the
Valla Valla sleeper, robbed. The
bandits jumped the train as it left
the East Portland station and
caught six men in the smoking
room of the car and with them the
Pullman conductor, who was just
beginning to take up tickets.
Several hundred dollars were taken

London Feb. 9.—The Privy Council
has decided the Green-Gaynor case
in favor of the United States. Ex-
tradition will probably follow.

Christiana Feb. 9.—The negotiations
of Norway and Sweden for separate
consular representatives has failed.

Sacramento Feb. 9.—Joseph Jordan
the "go between" in the Legislature
bribery cases has confessed.

Washington, February 7.—Post-
master Rego of Koloa, Kauai, has
been formally removed from office
and Louis Kahlbaum made the acting
postmaster.

Washington, February 7.—The
President has sent a special message
to Congress in which he recommends
a national survey and exploration
of the Philippines.

Washington, February 7.—United
States Consul Goodnow, whose of-
ficial acts as Consul at Shanghai have
been under searching investigation,
has resigned.

Helsingfors, Finland, February 7.
—The assassin of the State Procura-
tor Johnson has been identified as a
student named Elhohtenshal.

Warsaw February 7.—The strik-
ers killed a number of men today
who were attempting to return to
work.

Charleroi, Belgium, February 7.—
The coal strikers now out number
22,957.

from the men and the conductor.
The robbers stopped when they
made this cleanup and, forcing the
Pullman conductor to pull the bell
rope, jumped to the ground in the
upper end of Sullivan gulch, a fa-
vorite place for train holdups a
number of years ago. The country
about there is wild, though close in
to the center of the city, and the
robbers could easily lose themselves.

Hawaiian Coffee In New Zealand.

Honolulu Feb. 4. Mr. Kerns, a
coffee expert who has been in the
coffee business for twenty years at
London, Ceylon and New Zealand,
was a caller on Governor Carter this
afternoon. He spoke in high terms
of island coffee, stating that he
thought that the Hawaiian coffee
industry would soon be of more value
to the Territory than sugar cultiva-
tion.

Kerns stated that he was convinced
that much of the coffee which he
bought at New Zealand as Java was
really Hawaiian. For this he paid
25 cents a pound while here it cost
only 10 cents. He was certain that
much of the Hawaiian low grade
coffee, which was at present not
thought good enough for export,
could by a simple treatment, be made
very palatable. Even the local pea-
berries could be used to advantage.
To convince the Governor that his
theory was right Kerns gave the
Governor a tin of low grade coffee
which he had treated, to try. This
coffee he figured was worth six cents
a pound before treatment and about
eight and one-half after it had been
treated.